(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) to (c): Government of Karnataka have proposed the setting up of export Processing Zones at Banglore and Mangalore. They have been informed that at the moment there is no proposal to set up additional Export Processing Zones.

India Growth Fund

*545. SHRIMATI BASAVA RAJESWARI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the India Growth Fund registered an investment loss during the period of six months ending December 31, 1991;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the main reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) No Sir.

(b) and (c): Does not arise.

[*Translation*]

Indo-Nepalese Trade

*546 SHRI RAJENDRA KUMAR SHARMA:
DR. PARASHURAM GANGWAR:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to give assistance to Nepal to promote Indo-Nepalese economic cooperation;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the potential areas for joint industrial ventures identified by the Government; and

(d) the other steps taken to further improve the trade relations between the two countries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) and (b): Besides the preferential arrangements governing Indo-Nepalese bilateral trade, Government provides assistance to Nepal in sectors such as hydel and power, public health, communication, civil aviation, tourism, etc. to promote economic cooperation.

(c)The potential areas identified for joint industrial ventures include industries for producing cement, paper, sugar, other agro-industries and projects related to rural development and employment generation in rural areas.

(d) The efforts to strengthen the preferential trade regime and export promotion activities such as participation in fairs/exhibitions, exchange of delegations, seminars, etc. are measures to further promote bilateral trade.

Demand of Commercial vehicles Abroad

*547 SHRI DEVI BUX SINGH:
DR. RAMESH CHAND TOMAR:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the price of commercial vehicles in India are less as compared to other countries;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;